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## To Increase Food Distribution Capacity, Tarrant Area Food Bank Breaks Ground on \$12 Million Construction, Remodeling Projects

*New Building Adds to Cullen Street Facilities; Warehouse Renovations to Follow*

(Fort Worth, Texas)...Bo Soderbergh, executive director of [Tarrant Area Food Bank](http://www.tafoodbank.org) (TAFB), one of Tarrant County's largest, non-profit social service organizations, this morning kicked off the [Building to Feed Communities](#) campaign to raise funds for renovating, updating and expanding the food bank's warehouse. Soderbergh announced the campaign at a groundbreaking celebration for construction of a new building for program and administrative staff who must move out of the existing TAFB facility to allow expansion of the warehouse space.

The *Building to Feed Communities* campaign is being mounted to meet a growing need for food by over 300 pantries and partner agencies across the Food Bank's 13-county service area. In one year, these hunger-relief charities currently serve over 460,000 hungry people, including children, senior citizens, veterans and low-wage workers.

The new building, named the [Dorothy and Norman M. Kronick Program and Administration Building](#)



in honor of a leading donation from the Fort Worth Foundation, is located at 2525 Cullen, Fort Worth, Texas, 76107. The Kronick Building will provide space for programs and operations that formerly were housed in the warehouse. The two-story, 28,200 sq. ft. building should open in 2015. Additional gifts supporting the construction project came from a generous coalition of foundations that includes the Amon Carter, Sid Richardson, Mabee,

Paul E. Andrews, Jr. and Ryan. Another significant grant was received from an anonymous family foundation. Steele and Freeman, Inc. is the general contractor.

Once Tarrant Area Food Bank program and administrative staff move into the new building, *Building to Feed Communities* donations will fund the expansion and update of TAFB warehouse facilities at 2600 Cullen Street, home to the Food Bank since 1989 and located just northwest of and across the street from the new building.

### Campaign Co- Chairs

Larry Anfin Brad Cecil Cornelia Friedman

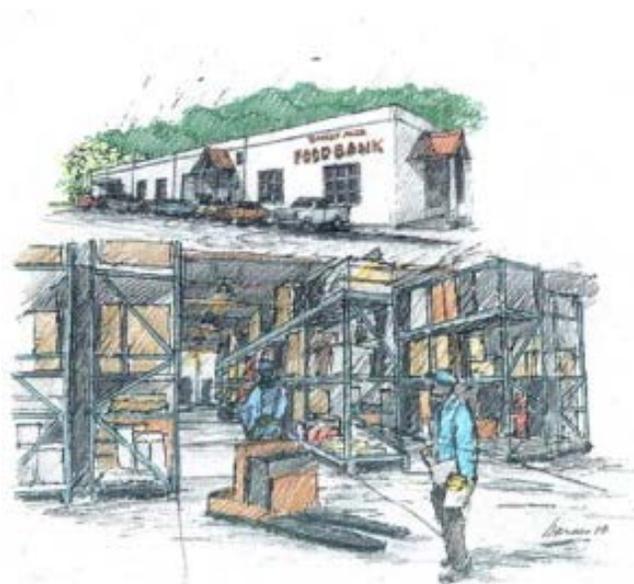
2600 Cullen | Fort Worth Texas | 76107 | Phone (817) 332-9177 | Fax (817) 877-5148 | [www.tafoodbank.org](http://www.tafoodbank.org)

During its fiscal year 2014, Tarrant Area Food Bank distributed 33 million pounds of fresh, frozen and non-perishable groceries. By 2020, the Food Bank projects that the need for assistance will increase to more than 50 million pounds of food annually.

“By 2020, it’s projected that people in the 13-county service area will seek assistance from TAFB partner agencies for 40 million nutritious meals in a year,” said Mr. Soderbergh. “That equates to about 50 million pounds of food. Fortunately, we are receiving more and more nutritious and higher quality food donations, food that must be stored and distributed even more quickly and efficiently.”

To assure speed and efficiency in distributing that amount of food, renovations will include improved cold storage, reconfiguration for new freezers and a warehouse management system. Warehouse upgrades should be completed by 2016.

The planning for *Building to Feed Communities* began in 2010 with the goal of assuring that TAFB’s warehouse is able to provide adequate capacity to receive and distribute ample food for its service area by 2020. *Building to Feed Communities* has a volunteer campaign steering committee of dozens of community leaders. Chairs are Larry Anfin, Brad Cecil and Cornelia Friedman. These volunteers inspired the coalition of community foundations and corporations to donate adequate funds to begin construction on the new building, said Soderbergh. Warehouse renovations will be funded by donations from individuals, businesses and organizations within TAFB’s 13-county service area as well as by continuing support from foundations and corporations.



“Financial support is crucial and so appreciated,” said Anfin. “We can also use volunteers and community advocates. To learn more, go to <http://building.tafb.org> and learn how to get involved or click to donate. People can also call Tracey Boyes at Tarrant Area Food Bank, (817) 332-9177 ext. 134.”

Tarrant Area Food Bank (TAFB), a nonprofit collector and distributor of donated food, [serves 300 hunger-relief charities](#) in 13 North Texas counties. Each month, those charities provide emergency groceries and/or prepared meals to over 50,000 households spread across Tarrant, Denton, Cooke, Wise, Parker, Johnson, Hood, Somervell, Palo Pinto, Erath, Bosque, Hamilton and Hill counties. One-third of all individuals served by the TAFB network of pantries and meal programs are children. TAFB also offers nutrition education, culinary job training and community gardening expertise to low-income neighborhoods.

For more about *Building to Feed Communities*, visit <http://building.tafb.org>. To learn about the Food Bank, visit [www.tafb.org](http://www.tafb.org) and find the Food Bank on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and LinkedIn. ##